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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WARSAW 04628 191056Z

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6178

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 4628

NODIS

FOR SONNENFELDT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, PL(GERALD R. FORD)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: STATE 169617 AND EALIER

1. YESTERDAY EVENING AT JAROSZEWICZ'S RECEPTION FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS TO COMMEMORATE 31 YEARS OF PEOPLES POLAND, GIEREK TOLD ME THAT HE REGARDED IT AS A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO CONVINCE US THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD GO TO GDANSK. HE SAID THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAD "PARTICULAR REASONS" TO HOPE THAT WE WOULD AGREE. I ASKED HIM WHAT THEY WERE. FIRST, HE SAID, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO THEM TO SHOW THAT "GDANSK WAS, IS, AND WILL REMAIN POLISH." SECOND, HE SAID, IT WAS THE ACTION OF TEH WORKERS ON THE COAST WHICH HAD BROUGHT HIM TO POWER. HE WOULD LIKE THE PRESIDENT TO SEE WHAT IMPROVEMENTS HAD SINCE BEEN EFFECTED IN THE GDANSK-GDYNIA AREA AND TO TALK WITH WORKERS THERE. I SAID I WONDERED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE TIME FOR TRAVEL OUTSIDE WARSAW; IT SEEMED TO ME WE SHOULD WAIT FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE PREADVANCE TEAM TO LEARN WHEN THE PRESIDENT WOULD ARRIVE AT WARSAW AND WHEN IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR HIM TO DEPART FOR HELSINKI (I HAD NOT YET SEEN YOUR 169617). GIEREK SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR ALL THE TALKS THAT WERE REQUIRED. HE AND JAROSZEWICZ WOULD ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT THROUGHOUT HIS
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VISIT. HE COULD ASSURE US THAT THE WELCOME THE PRESI-

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DENT WOULD RECEIVE IN GDANSK WOULD BE EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS IN WARSAW. IN ALL PROBABILITY, GIEREK SAID, IT WOULD BE BETTER, BECAUSE SO MANY POLES WERE ON VACATION ALONG THE COAST. I REPEATED THAT WE WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO DELAY DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBJECT UNTIL MR CAVANEY ARRIVED. GIEREK SAID THAT, IF THE PRESIDENT INSISTED ON GOING TO KRAKOW, OF COURSE, THE POLES WOULD AGREE, BUT REPEATED THAT IT WAS A MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THEM TO CONVINCE US THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD GO TO GDANSK.

2. WHEN I WAS CALLED TO TALK WITH GIEREK, I WAS IN THE MIDST OF AN EXPOSITION TO SPASOWSKI OF THE PROBLEM WE MIGHT CONFRONT IF THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY DID NOT OFFER ENOUGH TIME FOR TRAVEL OUSIDE WARSAW. FOLLOWING MY CONVERSATION WITH GIEREK, SPASOWSKI ASKED ME WHAT GIEREK HAD SAID. I TOLD HIM. SPASOWSKI THEN SAID WRYLY THAT HE OBVIOUSLY HAD HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM, SINCE HE WOULD BE EXPECTED TO DO THE CONVINCING OF WHICH THE FIRST SECRETARY HAD TALKED.

3. WE ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET SPASOWSKI THIS AFTERNOON AT 3:30 P.M. LOCAL. AT THAT TIME, I PLAN TO TELL HIM THAT WE DO INSIST ON KRAKOW, USING THE ARGUMENTATION INDICATED AT THE END OF PARAGRAPH 6, WARSAW 4561.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO BONN FOR CAVANEY NIACT IMMEDIATE.
DAVIES

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